

## ARTHUR E. COBB'S SUICIDE.

DEAD MAN'S WIFE AND CHILD WERE LIVING IN BOSTON.

Deserted Them. It is said, When He Came Here—Little Known Here About Mrs. McKibbin—Story That Cobb Met Her at Durland's Riding Academy Denied.

No disposition has yet been made of the body of Arthur E. Cobb, the young riding instructor who committed suicide at Rye on Thursday night. The coroner made another search yesterday of the bedroom in the McKibbin house in which Cobb shot himself and found another note of the same nature as the one addressed to the newspapers. In this letter Cobb again blames Mrs. McKibbin for his suicide.

Referring to her influence over his pupil, Mrs. McKibbin, he says: "I have but one friend left through this woman and that one she is doing her best to get away from me. It is a shame to see a good and noble woman keeping such company. The villa, which Mrs. McKibbin occupies, is in the section of the Bronx known as the Pleasant Point, and Cobb declared in the letter found last night that when it was leased by her she paid an elderly woman to go with her as a chaperon. Mrs. McKibbin has seven fine horses, pups, a groom and coachman, and attracted much attention while driving about Mamaroneck and the summer. Her husband, he said, last night, died a few years ago in Sweden, and she has since been travelling around the world living at hotels. Cobb, it is said, met Mrs. McKibbin about a year ago at Durland's Academy where he taught her to ride. She ceased taking lessons of him and the time of the time it was said that they had had a misunderstanding, but the maid said that Cobb visited the house several times afterward and dined with her mistress. While she was talking she produced a large picture of Cobb which adorned the hallway. It showed the riding teacher mounted on Mrs. McKibbin's favorite riding horse.

After leaving Mrs. McKibbin, Cobb began giving lessons to Mrs. McKibbin. He had apartments at the house of F. B. Atkins of Mamaroneck, but about most of the time he lived at the home of his pupil. At the time he killed himself his clothing, riding habit and boots were found in a closet in her house.

Frederick Ashington, who keeps a stock farm near Mrs. McKibbin's house at Rye, said that Cobb had lately been spending a good deal of time at the home of his pupil. At the time he killed himself his clothing, riding habit and boots were found in a closet in her house.

A party of men and women sat at a table in the restaurant of the Grand Hotel at Fifth, eighth and Ninth streets, yesterday afternoon discussing the suicide of Cobb. One of the women said that Cobb had been in this country for five years and had come here from England after being discharged from a position of trust which he held in the city of New York. Another woman at the table said she had made Cobb's acquaintance in the hotel restaurant. He told her, she said, that he had been a trainer of horses for an English nobleman, and that the story of his life would make interesting matter for a novel.

According to one of the men in the party, Cobb invited several of his friends to drink in the hotel cafe on Saturday and told them that he had fallen into a trap. He said he was to go into the country to act as a companion to a young woman who was wealthy and handsome. He invited all of his friends to drink with him, saying that after he had succeeded in marrying the woman he would entertain them at dinner at a Fifth avenue resort. He shook hands with the crowd in the cafe, the man said, and went away saying that the next time they met him he would be the husband of a wealthy woman.

Another member of the party said that the reason Mrs. McKibbin went away suddenly, refusing to take Cobb with her to Denver, was because another woman had appeared with a story to the effect that Cobb had fooled her and had succeeded in getting from her a large sum of money. They said that this woman was Mrs. A. B. Shelgrim, who had been on friendly terms with Mrs. McKibbin, and who lived at the Plaza Hotel. Recently, it was said, Mrs. Shelgrim went up to Mrs. McKibbin's house accompanied by J. Cleveland Reed, a well-known writer. Cobb was there, the story was told, and he was seen to be in the company of a woman who was said to be a wealthy woman.

William Durland, of the Durland Riding Academy, is out of town. One of the riding masters there, who refused to allow his name to be used, said yesterday:

"I know Cobb was not anybody here and that is not saying much. He came from Canada to Boston quite a while ago. Boston is my own town, you know. Five years ago something like that, he came to this city. Since then he has been here, and at least, in this place, has been fired as often."

He left last spring and did not show up again until two weeks ago, when he made another attempt to get employment here. But Mr. Durland would not have him under any circumstances. He had a wife and a child, he was told. My own wife knows Mrs. Cobb well. Cobb deserted his family when he came to this town and has not contributed a cent to their support since then. His wife came to this city about two years ago to see if she could persuade him to help her a little, but he wouldn't have anything to do with her. At least, in this place, has been fired as often."

The riding master added that Cobb had never been employed by Mrs. McKibbin or Mrs. Shelgrim.

"All talk about Cobb serving in the Life Guards is nonsense," remarked another employee of the academy.

The chief bookkeeper stated that Mrs. McKibbin was entirely unknown at the academy and that she had never ridden there. He said that Cobb must have got acquainted with her somewhere else.

Gustave Heinemann, owner of the Central Park Riding School, at 100th avenue and Fifty-ninth street, declared that Cobb had never been employed by him. The man had visited him a few times, he said, to arrange the sale of horses. John T. Luquer of R. S. Luquer & Co. of 67 Murray street, who rented the house at Rye to Mrs. McKibbin, said:

"I know nothing about the woman. The lease of the house was arranged by my agent. Mrs. McKibbin was some talk with my wife, but I never met her. I entertained some suspicion at first, when she proposed to rent the house, but my agent assured me that she was all right and that there would be no trouble about money. I asked my lawyer to investigate, however, and he could not find anything that was detrimental to her reputation, so I let her have the house. She made no acquaintances at all in Rye. The only persons she saw were friends who came from New York to visit her. We knew nothing definite about them, of course. The man who committed suicide was at first supposed to be her brother, but later it was reported that he was only a friend. He was at Rye very often. Mrs. McKibbin's lease was made by the law, and he was anxious for some time to know whether she was going to renew it. She acted all the time as if she intended to stay all winter, but that during the summer he had been at various summer resorts and that he had been in the country. The clerk added that Mr. Osgood had called at the hotel on Wednesday.

At the office of J. C. Osgood, 71 Broadway, it was said yesterday afternoon that Mr. Osgood had started for Denver on Thursday. At the Brevoort Hotel, where Mr. Osgood's office address, it was stated that he had not been a regular patron of the house for eight months. It was said that he had lived there last winter, but that during the summer he had been at various summer resorts and that he had been in the country. The clerk added that Mr. Osgood had called at the hotel on Wednesday.

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## JEALOUS LOVER'S CRIME.

WEISER KILLS THE WIDOW ASTER AND DEES BESIDE HER.

He Had Been Devoted to Her for a Year and She Told Her Friends That His Attentions Were Distasteful to Her—Was Shot Down as He Cleaned the Stove.

Early yesterday morning, while the neighborhood was asleep, Alexander Weiser, of 338 East Tenth street, a German of whom little is known, killed Mrs. Laura Aster, a widow to whom he had been devoted for more than a year, in her house at 126 East Tenth street, and then killed himself in the same room. No motive is known, except that the dead woman had told her friends that Weiser's attentions were distasteful to her. The killing was done with a 38-caliber revolver, and but two shots were fired, each producing instant death. Mrs. Aster was a woman of excellent reputation, and her house was one of the clean and respectable furnished-room houses which are common in the German section of the city. Her age was about forty years, and her admirer was probably a few years younger than she. The first that was known of the killing was when the driver of a delivery wagon, with a case of beer for the house, went there at nine o'clock, and failing to get any response to his ringing, looked in at the front basement window. On the floor of the kitchen he saw two bodies lying. The bodies were those of a man and a woman, and he ran along the street until he found a policeman to whom he told what he had seen. Then he ran back, jumped into his wagon and drove away. The policeman with others went to the house and tried the door, but found them locked. They went to the rear of the house and broke in. In the basement kitchen they found the bodies lying in front of the range with a bullet hole in the back of her head and the hair burned around the place, showing that the muzzle of the revolver had been held close to her, if not actually pressed against the scalp. Beside her lay a man, black with sweat and his fingers were soiled with the powder. She had one arm raised, the hand up the range when she was shot.

Near the door leading into the hallway lay Weiser's body. A misshapen splotch of lead lay near it. It was the bullet which had gone through his head from temple to temple and a flattened against the wall. The pistol was found on the floor near by. Two expended cartridges and three loaded ones were found in it. There was no sign of a struggle. Evidently Weiser had shot the woman before she had any intimation of what he was about to do, had then crossed the room, leaned against the door jam, and shot himself. Police Captain Diamond, of the Fifth street station, learned at the house of the murder that the bodies were those of a man and a woman, and he ran along the street until he found a policeman to whom he told what he had seen. Then he ran back, jumped into his wagon and drove away. The policeman with others went to the house and tried the door, but found them locked. They went to the rear of the house and broke in. In the basement kitchen they found the bodies lying in front of the range with a bullet hole in the back of her head and the hair burned around the place, showing that the muzzle of the revolver had been held close to her, if not actually pressed against the scalp. Beside her lay a man, black with sweat and his fingers were soiled with the powder. She had one arm raised, the hand up the range when she was shot.

The following official statement was issued at the office of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad in this city late this afternoon:

**PRESIDENT CLARK RESIGNS.**  
The Head of the New Haven Railroad to Leave the Company.

NEW HAVEN, Sept. 16.—President Charles P. Clark of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, this afternoon, formally tendered his resignation to the Board of Directors of the road. Mr. Clark was personally in attendance at the Board meeting and handed in his resignation, not stipulating any particular time when he desired to have the resignation go into effect. The resignation was accepted by the Board, and the Standing Committee of the board, and this committee will consider the resignation and recommend at a future meeting the course to be pursued. It is believed that no definite action will be taken until the resignation is accepted as such, when the truth will be ascertained as to the various rumors as to the effect that much of the stock is held by Pennsylvania Railroad men.

The following official statement was issued at the office of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad in this city late this afternoon:

At the meeting of the directors of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company, held in New York, to-day, President Clark notified the board of his inability to permanently remain president of the company. The resignation was accepted by the Board, and the Standing Committee of the board, and this committee will consider the resignation and recommend at a future meeting the course to be pursued. A quarterly dividend of 2 percent was declared.

Charles Parker Clark was born in Nashua, N. H., in 1838. He made his entry into railroad circles in 1870 as the clerk of the Board of Receivers of the Boston, Hartford and Erie. He held this post a little over a year, and his work had attracted such attention that he was appointed the sole trustee of the Portland and New York and New England Railroad. He shortly afterward became the general manager of the road, and in 1879 he was elected Vice-president. In the same year, he became the second Vice-president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. In December, 1885, he became President of the New York and New England, and in January, 1884, receiver. In two years the road was out of his hands as receiver, and he was President again. On March 11, 1887, he was elected President of the New York, New Haven and Hartford. In 1894, he became President of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. Mr. Clark was the first man to conceive the idea of delivering early Southern fruits and vegetables in the East, and to carry out this idea he established the freight ferry service from the terminus of the Pennsylvania road at Jersey City around New York city and up the north bank of the Harlem River. He also established the through passenger service between Boston and points in the South, without change and without stop at New York.

The Standing Committee of the Board of Directors will have a meeting before the annual meeting of the stockholders to be held in New York on Wednesday next. The action will be taken by this committee is unknown. To-night President Clark and Vice-President Hall are both out of town. They are members of the Standing Committee, the others being directors Morgan and Rockefeller of New York, Brush of New Haven, Robinson of Hartford, and Choate of Boston. Director O'Brien, of this city, said to-night with reference to the successor to President Clark that it is very improbable that President Cassatt of the Pennsylvania road would be chosen as some newspapers had indicated. It was stated to-night that President Clark told the directors that he was like to be relieved of the presidency before the close of the present year, though he was willing to remain at the head of the road until the directors had ample time to choose his successor. Resolutions of regret were passed at the death of Cornelius Vanderbilt, who had about \$1,000,000 worth of the road's stock.

## MRS. HENRIETTA HOLZER DROWNED.

Body Found at Coney Island on Wednesday Finally Identified.

The body of the woman which was washed ashore at the foot of West Thirtieth street, Coney Island on Thursday morning was identified late yesterday afternoon as that of Mrs. Henrietta Holzer, 70 years old, of 482 Putnam avenue, Brooklyn. She lived with her son-in-law, Charles French, and for the last year or more had been in ill health. It was her habit to take a stroll on the beach daily, and on Wednesday afternoon she left home with that intention. This was the last seen of her alive, and on Thursday morning Mr. French saw the body, but failed to identify it. On Friday another relative of the family, Mrs. Mary French, who lives at 100 West 100th street, identified the body by the clothing. It was taken home for burial.

## ANDREWS HOPEFUL WORDS.

Told Capt. Zachary to Keep Up Hope Even if He Was Not Heard from in Three Years.

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## TWO MORE THEATERS OPEN.

Heard Miller in a New Drama at the Herald Square.

The newest and much the best of the many stage versions of "A Tale of Two Cities" was performed at the Herald Square Theatre last night. The new drama, written by the famous English playwright, W. G. Wells, had made this effective use of the Dickens romance, and his place was entitled "The Only Way." It had been brought from London stamped with success at Mr. Irving's theatre, and the New York audience would, therefore, have been surprised and disappointed if it had not proved itself an exceptionally good drama. The only doubt as to the outcome rested upon Henry Miller, but he dispelled it speedily and the judgment of Mr. Irving in assigning to him the role of Sydney Carton was justified. The mind and heart of the great material to work with, was appreciably more than the time spontaneous. There was nothing forced or overdone in the acting. The mind and heart of the great material to work with, was appreciably more than the time spontaneous. There was nothing forced or overdone in the acting.

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## TIGHT CASH KNOCKS STOCKS.

BANKS HAVE GOT DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF THEIR RESERVE.

Banks Hammer the Market—Metropolitan Trust and Manhattan Lead the Decline. A smash in stock market prices followed the publication yesterday of the weekly statement of the associated banks of this city. The statement showed that the surplus reserves of the banks had been nearly wiped out. This was construed at once as meaning that, with currency continuing to leave this city in great volume for crop-maturing purposes in the interior, there would have to be a further contraction of loans by the banks to maintain their cash reserve. It had been anticipated that the statement would show a decrease in deposits of \$20,000,000 or more, this expectation being based on the belief that loans had been reduced in excess of \$10,000,000. The statement actually reported a reduction of but \$7,654,400 in loans.

The decrease in cash did not reach expectations, being only \$7,654,400, which was less than the \$10,000,000 estimated by the market. Owing to the smallness of the reduction in loans, however, the reduction in the deposits, which amounted to \$10,000,000, was not enough to offset the shrinkage in the reserves, so that the surplus reserves were cut down by \$2,345,600, leaving only \$27,345,600. This was a serious blow to the money situation in the city, and the interest on registered bonds will be mailed about the middle of the week.

So far, paying the interest in advance is the only step taken by the Secretary of the Treasury, but it is thought likely in banking circles that with the money situation as acute as the Secretary's permit interest revenue receipts to accumulate in the special Government depository banks as security. Action of this sort, bank officers would give important relief and add millions of dollars to the reserves within a short time. A few banks have, in view of the situation, advanced their national bank circulation.

THE SUN can state that the Secretary of the Treasury recently called attention to the fact that the national banks of this city have an aggregate capital of about \$50,000,000, and that it might be made much larger by funding surplus into capital if the banks were disposed to do so. Mr. Carter pointed out that the New York city banks had outstanding in circulation about \$15,000,000, and that there was therefore room for about \$35,000,000 increase in the note issue by the national banks of this city.

An investment in Government bonds, even if not pledged as security for circulation, would pay a steady interest to the investor of from 3.50 to 4.25 per cent in the way of return on the capital invested, and if used for circulation at a period like the present, a small further profit could be gained. The Secretary said that it would come to the part of wisdom for the New York banks to operate along these lines. If this plan was carried out in the early part of the year, and the reserve power of circulation held until the fall movement set in, \$30,000,000 or \$40,000,000 of new money could be provided for country use, without touching a dollar of bank reserves. As it is, all the money that the banks are called upon to lend is drawn from the early part of the year, and the banks to buy the Government bonds to be pledged as security against circulation, as for a comparatively small compensation they could borrow them.

The severest break in the stock market following the publication of the bank statement was in the traction shares of the borough of Manhattan. The stock of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company fell down 14 1/2 points under heavy liquidating sales, assisted by a bear attack, while

Manhattan Elevated stock declined 6 points. Metropolitan touched 191 1/2, closing at 194, while the Traction stock fell 10 points, closing at 104. The Traction stock had been up 10 points in the week, and the Metropolitan stock had been up 10 points in the week. The Traction stock had been up 10 points in the week, and the Metropolitan stock had been up 10 points in the week.

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To All Who Use Whiskey:  
American Journal of Health.

The American Authority  
ON  
Matters of Sanitation and Hygiene.

Editorial Rooms, 140 Fifth Ave., New York.

Subscription Rates: \$5.00 per Year in the U. S.  
£1.25 in Europe.

THE IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY  
HEALTH JOURNALISTS.

By J. H. WARNER, M. D.

People who wish to make a right use of alcoholic beverages welcome scientific light upon the subject. Naturally, they look to the hygienic journals for reliable information, as the layman has but little time to investigate along this line; moreover, it requires a technical knowledge which the masses do not possess to pronounce intelligently upon the hygienic value of such beverages.

Learned physicians, knowing the value of pure alcoholic beverages, continue to order their patients to use them, warning them to obtain only the purest, for these practitioners are well aware of the bad effects which follow the use of beverages in which the distiller, in order to reduce the cost of manufacture, introduces cheaply prepared chemical preparations to take the place of nature's pure grain.

The relation of the health journals to this most important question is a vital one. Alcoholic beverages are being used extensively, have been, and will be, and the temptation to adulterate these products is growing greater, rather than less. The standard of quality to insist upon is that of absolute purity, and every adulterated beverage should come under the ban of the severest law, so that the public can be aided to this extent in the selection of the best qualities.

We have examined many brands of whiskey, among them some which are highly praised in the advertisements of the manufacturers, but the greater portion of these whiskeys fall upon analysis to support the extravagant claims made for them. We have had occasion recently to examine the Old Crow Rye whiskey bottled by H. B. Kirk & Company, of New York City, and found it to be what it is advertised to be, that is, absolutely pure.

The above article appeared in print, Aug. 18th, 1899, without the knowledge, directly or indirectly, of any one connected with the distillation or sale of OLD CROW RYE.  
New York, Sept. 5, 1899.

The American Journal of Health states in another column that "Under no circumstances will paid matter be inserted as reading notices, or in the editorial departments."

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So far, paying the interest in advance is the only step taken by the Secretary of the Treasury, but it is thought likely in banking circles that with the money situation as acute as the Secretary's permit interest revenue receipts to accumulate in the special Government depository banks as security. Action of this sort, bank officers would give important relief and add millions of dollars to the reserves within a short time. A few banks have, in view of the situation, advanced their national bank circulation.

THE SUN can state that the Secretary of the Treasury recently called attention to the fact that the national banks of this city have an aggregate capital of about \$50,000,000, and that it might be made much larger by funding surplus into capital if the banks were disposed to do so. Mr. Carter pointed out that the New York city banks had outstanding in circulation about \$15,000,000, and that there was therefore room for about \$35,000,000 increase in the note issue by the national banks of this city.

An investment in Government bonds, even if not pledged as security for circulation, would pay a steady interest to the investor of from 3.50 to 4.25 per cent in the way of return on the capital invested, and if used for circulation at a period like the present, a small further profit could be gained. The Secretary said that it would come to the part of wisdom for the New York banks to operate along these lines. If this plan was carried out in the early part of the year, and the reserve power of circulation held until the fall movement set in, \$30,000,000 or \$40,000,000 of new money could be provided for country use, without touching a dollar of bank reserves. As it is, all the money that the banks are called upon to lend is drawn from the early part of the year, and the banks to buy the Government bonds to be pledged as security against circulation, as for a comparatively small compensation they could borrow them.

The severest break in the stock market following the publication of the bank statement was in the traction shares of the borough of Manhattan. The stock of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company fell down 14 1/2 points under heavy liquidating sales, assisted by a bear attack, while

Manhattan Elevated stock declined 6 points. Metropolitan touched 191 1/2, closing at 194, while the Traction stock fell 10 points, closing at 104. The Traction stock had been up 10 points in the week, and the Metropolitan stock had been up 10 points in the